

Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Threepence

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

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FIRST SCHOOLBOY OVER THE NORTH POLE THEN BACK TO THE SIXTH FORM

NOT many schools can boast of having a boy come back to them from the North Pole; but this happened at Bancroft School, Essex, not long ago. The boy is David Cox, aged 17, the first schoolboy to fly over the North Pole.

On the morning after he arrived back in England, he told something of his grand adventure to the C N, of which he and his younger sister are readers.

David Cox lives at Snarebrook, London, and is a flight sergeant in the Bancroft School Combined Cadet Force. The school, at which he is a day boy, was founded by Francis Bancroft in 1727, and has about 400 boys. It is in Epping Forest, near Woodford Green.

David had already put in 12½ hours' flying time, and had gained his proficiency certificate before he was selected to go with one of three Lincoln aircraft on a training flight in Arctic navigation.

Precautions

Just before the flight started from Manby, Lincolnshire, David was "briefed" in how to survive if the plane came down in the Arctic. Parachutes were to be used for tents; and other equipment included skis, "mukluks" (an Eskimo word meaning heavy boots), sleeping bags, and a gun for shooting food if the emergency rations ran out while the marooned party awaited rescue.

Hoping that the experiment in Arctic survival would not have to be made, David climbed into the Lincoln on a warm summer's day and set his face resolutely towards the eternal ice.

The planes flew first to Keflavik in Iceland, from which the Lincoln was to fly (non-stop David

hoped) to the Pole and back, the first RAF plane to fly there since 1945. The other two planes were to fly across Greenland from east to west. In one of these was Cadet Warrant Officer Kenneth Simmons, of Horsham, and in the other was Cadet Flight Sergeant E. D. B. Coles, of Bournemouth. One of the planes made contact with the French expedition exploring the Greenland ice-cap.

After re-fuelling, David's plane set off up the east coast of Greenland. His place was in the tail and he had to take charge of, and serve out, the rations.

David also had to assist the Second Navigator in reading the master compass.

Surprise

Looking out of the plane, David saw the last of ice-capped Greenland over Cape Eiler Rasmussen, and then the Lincoln hummed merrily at a height of 10,000 feet over a waste of ice, fog, and floe-strewn water.

David was too excited to sleep much, he said, and the thrill of his life came when he was the first schoolboy to write in his log, "Over the North Pole." But a surprise was there for them all. Instead of the unbroken mass of pack ice they had expected they saw expanses of open water between the ice, "enough to sail a ship in," declared the captain.

David told the C N that what impressed him most as he gazed downwards was the lifeless desolation of it.

Homing

The plane circled the Pole for two minutes, and when they arrived over Cape Eiler Rasmussen again, they were only eight miles out in their reckoning, which was a very creditable performance in out-and-back navigation. They had also proved that grid navigation is suitable for high-level flying over the Pole.

They arrived back at Keflavik 17 hours and 14 minutes after leaving it, the seventeen most enthralling hours of David's life, during which he had travelled over 3600 miles.

There was the flight back to England and then, for David, the return to his place in the Sixth Form at Bancroft. He intends, after going to the University, to take up aviation meteorology as a career.

David has made a good start, with an extra summer holiday over the North Pole!

WOULD YOU
LIKE TO
BE A
FROG?



Two young bathers, George and Buster Brown, found this strange marine "monster" on the beach at Southend. It turned out to be Frogman Alec Jackson of the Royal Marines.

WEATHER WATCHERS

Boys and girls of Whitby (Yorks) Grammar School are now very conscious of the weather. Under one of their masters, Mr F. Dutton, they are in complete charge of the town's Meteorological Station, and are sending daily weather telegrams to the Air Ministry. This essential service also has definite educational value, and the scholars will always have a far more than passing interest in weather conditions as a result.

She Taught Korean Women to Vote

ARRIVING in London this month is a Korean lady, Dr Whang-Kung Koh, who has been touring Europe and attending an international conference in Paris.

Dr Koh had planned to spend a few days in London on her way back home to Seoul, but owing to the war in Korea she cannot return yet. So she hopes that, while waiting in England, she may have the opportunity of telling the people something about Korea.

Dr Koh will have a fascinating story to tell, for she has been Director of Social Services in South Korea, and it was part of her task to prepare women to vote for the first time in the 4000 years of Korea's history.

Seventy per cent of the women could neither read nor write. So Dr Koh had to train educated Korean women to explain to the others the meaning of democracy. They had a wonderful response to their efforts when the first elections were held two years ago, for about 92 per cent of all the women voted.

Stone Age "Xylophone"

THE oldest known musical instrument has just come from Indo-China to the Paris "Museum of Man." It consists of ten stones increasing in size from 18 inches to three feet, each stone having a different note when struck. Called a lithophone, it dates back to the Stone Age.



David Cox tries on his "mukluks"

Service to the Common Man

DURING recent weeks Britain has been the meeting-place for a number of national and international congresses in the field of science. These may not receive the attention they merit, yet they concern us all. For they show that neither we nor our friends from abroad are losing sight of our main common task: the promotion of world prosperity and happiness.

The meetings at Southport and Liverpool of the British Medical Association, to which most of this country's doctors belong, and which is closely linked with similar organisations in the Commonwealth, were full of life and interest to the common man. The picture of how doctors view their tasks was perhaps best expressed in the series of brilliant reports to the scientific meetings of the B.M.A. In these, experts revealed the extent and power of the new weapons given to doctors in fighting disease; and also something of those vast new stores of knowledge which in recent years have enabled doctors to treat efficiently, say, infections, shock, and bleeding.

Doctors and State

The expansion of knowledge and of the skill of doctors and surgeons in the past 50 years has, in fact, been so great that a completely new arrangement of studies, of research, and of practice has proved necessary. At the same time the State has been assuming new obligations towards the citizen as in the National Health Service.

As most British doctors point out, we now have a situation which requires new education for both the doctor and the patient. The doctors, with their powerful new weapons, vast laboratories, and auxiliary machinery must not lose sight of the fact that they are dealing with human beings who need not only their knowledge but also sympathy. The citizen, on the other hand, must develop a sense of responsibility in using the costly and not too plentiful facilities provided for him by the State in the form of hospitals, surgeries, and so on.

Our success—or failure—in this venture will undoubtedly influence medical thought and practice far beyond the boundaries of the Commonwealth.

Atomic Energy

Although vastly different in many respects, the distinguished experts who came from no fewer than 47 countries to the World Power Conference in London also had, as their main task, service to the common man.

Their purpose was to discuss how fuels, water-power, steam, petrol motors, gas-turbines, and atomic energy could help us in the various forms of toil that face us day in and day out. This toil may be as light as preparing breakfast on a gas cooker or as heavy as the shifting of millions of people to their place of work. In each case power is used. But the trouble is that the world's power resources, though great, are not limitless. They were used lavishly, even wastefully, in the past, and we must now look for new places or materials from which to tap them. Here, of course, is the field where atomic energy can play an important rôle. The papers read at the conference gave abundant proof that British scientists and engineers are contributing much to this field of knowledge.

GREAT CANADIAN

WILLIAM LYON MACKENZIE KING, the famous Canadian statesman who died recently in his 76th year, will be remembered as the great Liberal leader who was Prime Minister for a longer period than any other in the Empire. He beat the record of Sir Robert Walpole, who was Britain's chief minister for 21 years.

As a young man Mackenzie King became interested in the welfare of workpeople in industry, and in the improvement of relations between them and their employers. He made a profound study of the subject, and the knowledge he gained was the foundation of many of the new social laws he inspired.

He was born at Berlin, Ontario, a town afterwards called Kitchener, the son of a lecturer in law who was a staunch Presbyterian. Mr Mackenzie King himself was a devoted Presbyterian all his life. He first entered the Canadian Parliament in 1908, and became leader of the Liberal Party in 1919.

In William Mackenzie King the British Commonwealth has lost one of its greatest sons.

HUSKIES OF THE JOHN BISCOE

AFTER a round voyage of 50,000 miles, the *John Biscoe* arrived back at Southampton recently with ten huskies which are to take part in a display in the Dome of Discovery at the Festival of Britain next year. Two of the dogs are pups born at Port Stanley in the Falklands.

The *John Biscoe*, which is the Falkland Island Dependencies Survey vessel, started her long voyage last October. Her task was to relieve scientists at Antarctic Survey bases where at times 74 degrees of frost were recorded.



Guide Leaders

Many of the delegates to the World Conference of Girl Guides came in national costume. These leaders are from Pakistan, Greece, USA, Norway, India, and France. Fourth from the right is Lady Baden-Powell, World Chief Guide.

NEWS FROM EVERYWHERE

TV IN COLOUR

The BBC is to test three systems of colour television at the research station at Kingswood, Surrey.

A new ship of specially-strengthened steel is being built for the Australian National Antarctic Expedition which is to set up an Antarctic base in 1952.

British cars scored the highest percentage of finishes in the gruelling International Alpine Trial, and Ian Appleyard, in a Jaguar, was the only driver in the big car classes to complete the 200-mile course without a penalty.

The Youth Hostel opened recently at Castletown, near John O'Groats, is the most northerly in Britain.

Free Performance

Passengers on the Orient Express fled from their compartment when an ebony box fell from the luggage rack and burst open. It contained 300 performing fleas belonging to an Indian traveller.

The Canadian Navy League Trophy for the greatest all-round efficiency in training and in sport has been awarded to the Walsall (Staffordshire) Unit of the Sea Cadet Corps.

In spite of the bandit war there are now 640,000 children at school in Malaya, compared with 240,000 ten years ago.

The first episode of a radio serial of Eric Linklater's novel *Pirates in the Deep Green Sea*, will be broadcast in Children's Hour on August 3.

NEVER PENNILESS

Thirty years ago Herbert Wootton, a miner from Yorkshire, landed in America with three-halfpence in his pocket. Recently he arrived back in England with his son, to have a "reet good look at home." And he still has the penny and half-penny with which he started out.

An international conference on the development of transport in Africa is to be held at Johannesburg in October.

The BBC will broadcast reports of an attempt on the Matterhorn in the Light Programme on August 5. The three climbers will carry transmitters, and their descriptions will be passed on by Lausanne radio.

Big Family

During June 155 children joined Dr Barnardo's Homes' family of 7000 boys and girls. This is the highest number admitted in one month since June 1942.

An American production of *Peter Pan* has been running in New York for three months. The Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children, London, to which Barrie bequeathed the rights of his play, has already received from this source well over £10,000 in royalties.

A memorial to William Penn, the Quaker founder of Pennsylvania, who was born in a house on Great Tower Hill, London, has been placed on All Hallows-by-the-Tower Church.

MOVING DAY

Not many refugees from a river in flood are able to take their homes with them, but this was done in Australia during the recent widespread disaster.

A farmer, whose house was threatened by the rising Hunter River, sent out an appeal for help. Soldiers promptly came and took down his house, shifted it to higher ground, and re-assembled it there.

A goat called Kri-Kri, one of an almost extinct sub-species known as *Gabra aegagrus cretensis*, has been presented to the United States by the people of Greece as a token of thanks for Marshall Aid.

Scouts from several European countries, including Holland, Denmark, Norway, Italy, Germany, Austria, and Hungary, have been in Britain attending jamborees in Lancashire and at Blair Atholl, Perthshire.

The eighteenth-century Palladium Bridge in Prior Park, Bath, is to be restored as an ancient monument.

Britain's biggest enclosure for Polar bears has just been opened at Chester Zoo. It covers an acre of ground and has a swimming pool holding 100,000 gallons of water.

STUDENT TOWN

Work has started on the construction of the "student town" at Sogn just outside Oslo. It is being built in three stages, the first to be completed by December next year, when 315 flats in three-storey terrace houses will be ready. Eventually the amount of students' accommodation will be trebled.

A scheme to assist emigration from over-populated countries, such as Italy and Western Germany, has the support of 16 nations in Western Europe. It is to be administered by the International Labour Organisation.

Vickers-Armstrongs have designed a tractor weighing more than 14 tons for earth-moving and heavy agricultural work. It will be powered by a 180 h.p. Rolls-Royce Diesel engine, and will be on the world market by January 1952.

Religious ballet, or mime, is to be performed for the first time in Britain since the Reformation at Southwark Cathedral in May and June next year.

Why Parliament Has Adjourned

We asked our Parliamentary Correspondent to explain to readers why there has been an Adjournment of Parliament, instead of the more usual Prorogation at the end of a session. Here is what he says:

ADJOURNING comes naturally to a Parliament in times of stress and uncertainty. It is the technical way of saying: "You may go now, but be ready to come back at short notice."

In this mood Lords and Commons arranged to leave Westminster on July 28 for the summer recess. This will last provisionally until October 17.

Parliament has adjourned, and it can meet again before October 17 if necessary, as though it had not stopped sitting.

Urgent Business

The reason is that any urgent business arising out of the present international situation can be raised at once on a recall. A Prorogation is thus avoided.

Prorogation would be the alternative to adjournment, but this method is hedged round with all kinds of State forms and ceremonial.

When Parliament "stands prorogued," a session comes to an end irrevocably, although, of course, Parliament itself is in being, though not sitting.

Apart from anything else, the ceremonial associated with the return of Parliament after a break of this kind is a simple reason why, under present conditions, an adjournment is preferable to a prorogation. Time is all-important here.

If Parliament is prorogued, only a Royal Proclamation can summon M.Ps back to duty before the due date. This means a delay of about three days.

Under the adjournment procedure no Royal Proclamation is required, and the authorities can muster M.Ps back at Westminster in about 24 hours.

A Proper Precaution

These calculations, of course, would not have arisen but for the war in Korea. Coupled with this is the difficulty of predicting the course of events in the whole of South-east Asia.

British forces, apart from the aid given to the United Nations engaged in Korea, are employed in operations against Communism in Malaya.

Our French allies have a similar task in Indo-China. At the same time the Allies feel they must exert vigilance in Europe and the Middle East and, in fact, everywhere around the "perimeter" where the interests of Communists and anti-Communists meet.

The adjournment is thus a proper precaution to take when "times are out of joint."

FLYING KITTENS

Two kittens of Greenfield, Indiana, doubtless view with scorn the adventures of Puss in Boots in his seven-league boots. For they stowed away in an aeroplane for a journey of 175 miles.

When the plane landed in Chicago the other day sounds were heard coming from the under-carriage. Inspection revealed two kittens.

How they avoided being shaken off during take-off and landing, or being crushed when the wheel rose is a mystery.



Going A-Mowing

It's all aboard the haycart as it sets off for the hayfield with a party of office girls who are spending their holidays at Lulsgate (Somerset) Volunteer Agricultural Camp.

FISH FOR NEW LOCHS

MR THOMAS JOHNSTON, Chairman of the North of Scotland Hydro-Electric Board, has been talking of the use that might be made of the hundred-odd artificial lochs which will be created when all the projected hydro-electric schemes are completed in Scotland.

At present zoologists and biologists are studying the possibility of introducing trout and salmon into the new lochs. There are problems here, for feeding stuffs have to be introduced and the most suitable water for fish-breeding has yet to be discovered. But experiments in Canada with chemical feeding stuffs for fish have been successful in increasing both size and numbers, and Mr Johnston hopes that a similar success will follow the Scottish experiments.

120 CANDLES

"UNCLE" Peter Chandler Pringle, South Africa's oldest pioneer settler, has just reached his 120th birthday. To celebrate the occasion he not only cut a monster birthday cake with 120 candles but took part in a radio programme from Johannesburg.

As long ago as the Boer War (1899-1902) he was refused enlistment on the ground that he was "too old."

AUSTRALIA'S CORROBOREE

ALL who love the ballet will be interested to know that a new production called *Corroboree* has recently been staged at Sydney. The music was composed by an Australian, John Antill, and the choreographer was a young Australian, Rex Reid, who had been dancing for some years at Sadler's Wells, London.

Corroboree, which means an Aboriginal song and dance at night, is a ritual with the Australian Aborigines, and it presents a fine subject for a ballet.

It is to be hoped that this production will come to Europe, so that the Old World can see what Australia has done to advance the cause of first-class ballet.

YOUNG FOSSIL-HUNTER

A NINE-YEAR-OLD reader of the C.N., Simon Beaumont of Buchlyvie, Stirlingshire, is a keen fossil-hunter. Recently he found at Arnside, Westmorland, a fossil which has been identified at the Glasgow Museum as that of the *Rugose Coral Zaphrentis*. This animal belonged to the Carboniferous Period some 250 million years ago.

SKY CORRIDORS

NEW Safety First airways, on which all aircraft flying over Britain will be controlled for a width of ten miles between heights of 5000 feet and 11,000 feet, are to be introduced soon.

Green Airway, the first corridor serving the main trunk air routes from the Atlantic, and stretching from the Pembroke coast to the Metropolitan control zone, will start operating this month. All airways south of Birmingham will be in operation by November and the remainder by the end of the year.

TO HELP YOUNG CRICKETERS

THE formation of a national organisation to help young cricketers is recommended by an MCC cricket inquiry committee in a report just issued. The appointment of a director of coaching and of national coaches is suggested.

The committee was appointed to examine problems of providing more and better cricket facilities for all boys and girls between 11 and 18. It is believed that in England and Wales alone there are over 1,000,000 young people keen on learning the game, and that over 5000 teachers would welcome guidance.

BICYCLE VAN

A SPECIAL bicycle van is now in use on the Victoria-Newhaven boat train. The bicycles are suspended by their front wheels on rubber-covered hooks 12 inches apart in the roof; and to avoid interlocking handlebars long and short hooks are used alternatively.

The system was adopted after close study of Continental methods of transporting cycles.

LIVING MEMORIALS

YOUNG apple trees growing at Morley, near Leeds, are living memorials to the generosity of schoolchildren in British Columbia.

Early this year many Yorkshire schools received consignments of apples sent by the Canadian children, and some were distributed in the Nursery School at Morley. After giving out the fruit the teachers marked out a plot of ground, and there each child planted an apple-seed. Some succumbed to the cold spring weather, but others are making good, sturdy plants.

FOUR ARROWS

THE Coat of Arms of King Henry VIII School, Coventry, carved on limestone, are to be incorporated in the school's new assembly hall. The Coat of Arms has three falling arrows on a shield, surmounted by a mailed fist holding a fourth arrow, and is derived from the family arms of John Hales, who founded the school in 1545, under a Royal Charter.

TRIUMPHAL EXIT

AT the headquarters of the International Tuberculosis Campaign in Copenhagen much interesting information arrives from different parts of the world.

This summer an ITC team completed its work in the city of Indore, Central India. The citizens, to show their appreciation of the work of the Scandinavian doctors, decided that they should make a triumphal exit on an elephant!

The back of the elephant was decorated with posters in Hindi, telling the people that already more than a million children and young adults in India had been tested for tuberculosis and those who needed it vaccinated.

BRITANNIA RETURNS

A STONE statue of Britannia which has long been in the possession of the London office of the Commercial Bank of Scotland, has been identified as the original sign of the London Assurance, who acquired it as long ago as 1735. It stood in their Cornhill office for many years, but in 1845 was lost sight of. Now it has been returned.

POURING THE SEA INTO THE DESERT

AN ingenious plan to give Egypt more hydro-electric power was presented to the World Power Conference which met in London recently.

The proposal is that the waters of the Mediterranean be led through a channel to the Qattara Depression of the Libyan Desert to form a vast salt lake there. A great hydro-electric power station would be built on the edge of the Depression, and with the power generated water would be brought up from the Nile to irrigate land that is at present arid desert.

The Qattara Depression, which is 186 miles long by 90 miles wide, is at present practically useless. Almost the only human beings who venture into that vast wilderness are wandering tribes of Arabs.

Its natural basin, therefore,

would make an ideal overflow for the water from the Mediterranean after its 50-miles journey from the coast to drive the turbines of the power station. In time, of course, with the steady inflow of water the basin would fill up; but there is no need to worry about that at present, for it is estimated that it would take two centuries to fill.

Another factor is that North Africa's hot sun would evaporate the water at the rate of 4.6 millimetres per day, so that even after the lake had filled it would be possible to allow a regulated inflow from the sea.

It is calculated that such a power station at Qattara, together with the power station now under construction at the great Aswan Dam, could supply all the electricity that Egypt needs.

BRIGHT FOR WRIGHT

DOUGLAS WRIGHT, the Kent and England bowler, has chosen the match against Hampshire, at Canterbury, next Saturday, for his benefit.

Since he made his debut with Kent in 1932, at the age of 17, Doug Wright has taken over 1300 wickets. He has played in 26 Test matches for England, and has toured Australia and New Zealand, and South Africa twice. In Test matches Wright has dismissed 85 batsmen.

He has achieved the hat-trick on seven occasions, a world record, the seventh being against Hampshire at Canterbury last year. Will history repeat itself this week-end?

THE PICTURE TUBE

WHATEVER we may think about the American term *video*, for television, we must admire the new American term for the cathode-ray tube—the *picture tube*. The actual scenes from the television studio appear upon the cathode-ray tube, and it has no other name in this country.

Even in American technical circles they simply refer to it as the picture tube, a name which is good and descriptive; it tells exactly what the tube does and what it is, whereas cathode-ray tube might be anything, even a valve.

It may not be long before the term spreads to this side of the Atlantic.

MECHANICAL COAL-MINER

A NEW British coal-mining machine is to be used on a large scale in our pits. It is the Samson stripper which can mine 100,000 tons of coal a year with only five men working it and thirty on the coal face.

Where this machine is in use, recently said the Minister of Fuel and Power, there is no undercutting, no shot-firing, less dust, more large coal, and fewer accidents.

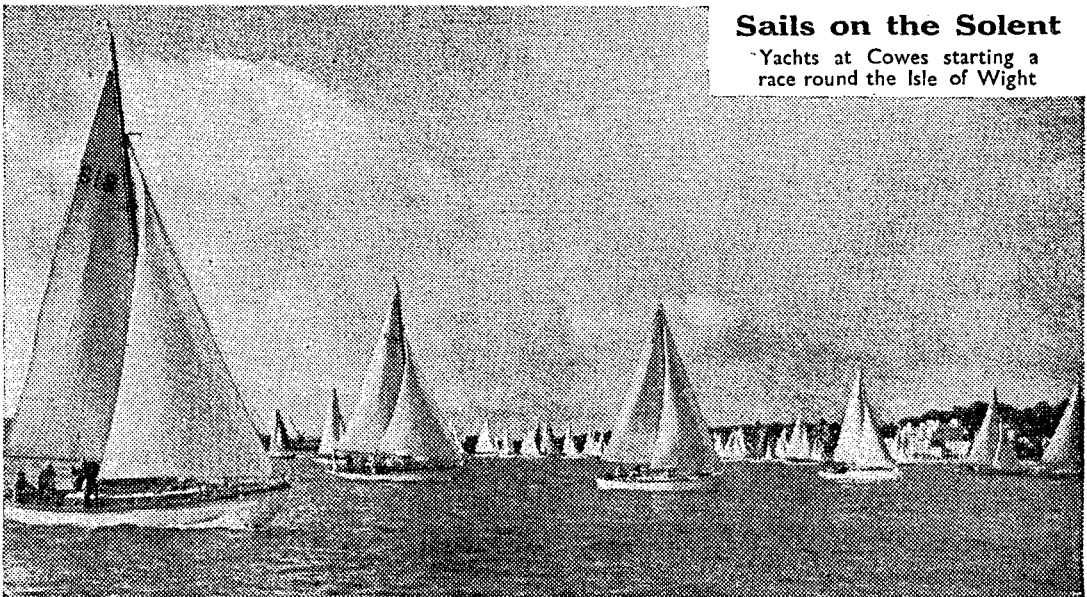
STAMP NEWS

EVERY stamp-issuing colony in the West Indies group is to have a two-value commemorative set in honour of the West Indies University College. The designs will show the arms of the college on the lower value and the Chancellor of the college, Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone, on the higher value.

FRANCE has issued a set of six stamps in honour of leading revolutionaries during her troublesome times in the 18th century. Each stamp shows a portrait of either Chénier, David, Carnot, Danton, Robespierre, or Hoche.

PART of the King's collection is to be lent for display in next year's festival of Britain.

ITALY has issued a single stamp in honour of Gaudenzio Ferrari, one of her famous painters, who died in the 16th century.



Sails on the Solent

Yachts at Cowes starting a race round the Isle of Wight

HOW ELEPHANTS ARE WEIGHED

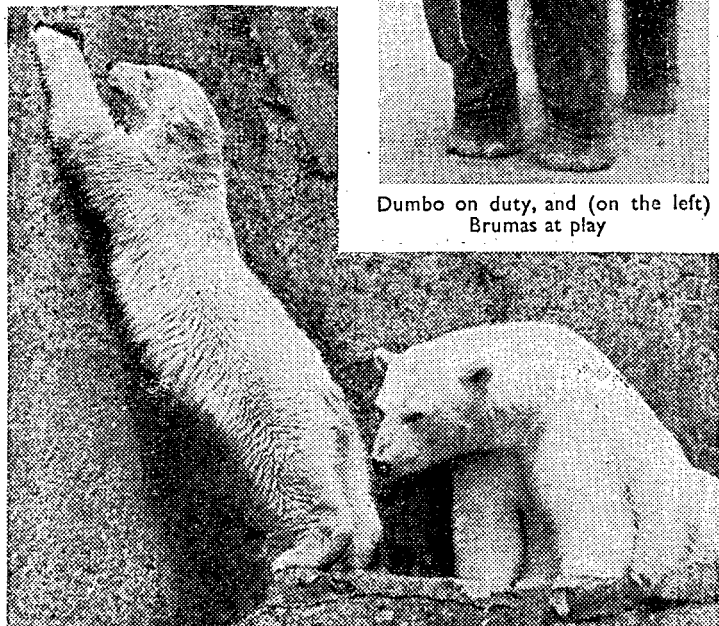
Zoo elephant-keepers sometimes have heavy jobs to perform, and recently they had a heftier one than usual, for they had to put their four charges—Rajah, Ramee, Maneki, and Dumbo—on the scales, their weights being wanted for the Society's records.

All four animals were taken to the stores' yard by keepers Bailey and Cullen, and there, one after the other, the elephants stood for a minute or two on the vast platform of the official weighbridge, an apparatus capable of recording the weight of anything up to 20 tons!

The only elephant to give trouble was the temperamental



Dumbo on duty, and (on the left) Brumas at play



Maneki, who, feeling suspicious, kept dancing about and thus varying her weight. But keepers got her still in the end by offering her food.

Current weights of the quartet are as follows: Rajah (senior riding elephant), 1 ton 14 cwt; Ramee, 1 ton 9 cwt; Maneki, 1 ton 8 cwt; and little Dumbo (who flew over here early last year from Assam and who is now giving rides for an hour or two daily in the Children's Zoo), 11 cwt 21 lbs.

Incidentally, all the elephants have a long way to go to beat the Zoo record. This (3½ tons) is held by an Indian elephant named Lucki, who lived and worked in the Gardens during the early years of this century.

ALL being well, in two or three months' time the London Zoo may be welcoming another king penguin baby.

A year ago Mary made Zoo history by producing its "first ever" king penguin chick; but unfortunately the mite was killed accidentally when only two days old by its inexperienced father, Tubby.

This season Mary has chosen another mate—Nelson, largest of the Society's seven "kings." He is so-called because, like the original Nelson, he has only one eye. The pair, now inseparable as they stroll around the Mappin Terrace pond, keep well apart from their companions, and have even turned against their keepers.

"Up till the other day, I could safely handle both birds," Head-keeper Hubert Jones told me. "Today, both have become so

spiteful that any attempt at a caress is met with a vicious peck."

Keepers expect Mary to lay her single egg shortly, and they hope that, when she does, she will retire to one of the caves under the terraces. "The king penguin carries its egg about with it on the upper surface of the feet, and if she walks around too much—or gets scared by the many Brumas fans now flocking to the terraces—she may drop it, when it might easily roll into the water and be lost," Keeper Jones added.

TALKING of Brumas, although this important youngster, now eight months old, is doing well, the polar bear cub is giving her keepers a little anxiety. She is not eating enough fat, and the problem is, how to get Brumas to eat more of it.

"Brumas now gets six pounds of horse meat a day, two pounds of it fat," Headkeeper Bruce Smith told me. "The trouble is, she never eats all of her ration, leaving mostly the fat."

"A certain amount of fat is essential in the diet of a young polar bear, but, if the animal won't eat it, there is no known method of persuading her to do so. Fatty concentrates carefully mixed with the meat may be the answer, but we do not want to adopt these measures yet, especially as Brumas is in such good condition."

Feeding-time for the two bears is still unseen by the public. It takes place once a day, usually in the early morning, inside their "bedroom," before the pair are allowed outdoors.

Other People's Schooldays

OF the making of anthologies there is no end, but we can always give a welcome to a new-comer traversing fresh ground and providing a rich store of entertainment. Such an anthology is G. F. Lamb's *The English at School* (Allen & Unwin, 12s 6d).

The editor avowedly set out to show what English school life has been like according to those who have experienced it; and he has achieved his aim with quotations spanning 12 centuries—from Alcuin to S. P. B. Mais—and reflecting widely-varying conditions in many types of school.

There is abiding interest here in the views and recollections of famous people—Dr Johnson and Oliver Goldsmith, Leigh Hunt and Thackeray, Charlotte Brontë, and a host of others—and not always do they see their days of learning, or teaching, through rose-coloured spectacles.

It is a book to dip into at random, in the sure knowledge of reward. One page provides opportunity to deplore Sydney Smith's outrageous statement that "the head of a public school is generally a very conceited young man"; another offers Thomas de Quincey's most un-Summerskill-like views on boxing.

RISE OF A CRICKETER

DURING 1934 many visitors to a certain London suburban cricket ground were amused by the club's diminutive eight-year-old scorer. Conversation with the solemn-faced youngster, however, usually changed their amusement to amazement; for the lad was a mine of information on most sporting topics. The skilful manner in which he wielded a bat almost as tall as himself was also a matter for comment.

The boy was a brilliant scholar, taking a scholarship to the County High School, and there rose to be school captain. After the war he entered Cambridge University, where he became a Double Blue, captaining both cricket and soccer teams.

Needless to say his own county (Essex) sought his services on the cricket field, and his sound batting and brilliant fielding proved a valuable asset. Now he is captain of the Essex eleven, and it may be that Douglas Insole will captain the England side in Australia next winter.

Perseid Meteors are due, says the C N Astronomer

VISITORS FROM SPACE

THE Perseid Meteors may present a good display during some nights next week, owing to the absence of moonlight most of the time.

Thursday, Friday, and Saturday (August 10 to 12) will be the most likely nights to provide the greatest number of these so-called "shooting stars," when as many as one or two a minute, on an average, may be witnessed. Even now some of the forerunners of the main stream may be seen speeding across the north-east sky from a point rather low down and near the horizon, as soon as the sky becomes dark.

This point, known as the meteor-radiant, is in the constellation of Perseus, and accounts for their name Perseids, though the meteors have nothing whatever to do with these stars.

The star-map shows from whence the meteors appear to come. As the night advances, this point in Perseus will become higher in the north-east and finally by early morning, say 4 a.m., it will be not far from overhead.

It is then that the greatest number of the meteors are likely to be seen, because we are then nearer the front of the advancing Earth and will be meeting the meteor-stream more head-on, as it were. The relative speed of their approach is then greatest, amounting to about 40 miles a second.

Their observed flight is of short duration—as a rule just a

second or two—though actually they will have come some 4000 million miles from far beyond the orbit of Neptune. But we do not see them until, on entering the Earth's atmosphere, their great speed causes the meteors to ignite. Becoming incandescent they soon burn away and vaporise, all that is ultimately left being dust.

The meteors usually appear first at a height of about 70 miles. Then, after a flight of 40 to 60 miles or so, according to their size, they usually vanish at a height of 30 to 50 miles above the Earth's surface. This is the fate of nearly all meteors, though a few larger specimens may reach the ground, where they may be found and are then known as meteorites. Some find their way into museums.

When analysed they are found to vary much in composition, but may be generally divided into two classes, stony and metallic meteorites. Some are composed of crystalline rock only, some largely of iron and nickel, while others are mixtures of iron and stone.

About thirty elements enter into the composition of meteorites, iron, nickel, oxygen, silicon, and magnesium being most abundant, followed by sulphur, calcium, cobalt, aluminium, and sodium. They also emit gases when heated, including hydrogen, nitrogen, carbon monoxide, and hydrocarbons. There are also some minerals not known to exist on Earth.

While the sizes of these celestial visitors vary from that of grains of sand to cathedral domes and larger, the fascinating astronomical problem is whence or how did they originate?

G. F. M.

Nurses For the Nestlings

IN last week's CN we told the story of a cock blackbird which helped two robins to feed their young.

However, the bird that receives most attention in the quiet nurseries of our countryside is the young cuckoo, which, grown too big for its stolen cradle and for its little foster-parents, cries for food in tones that other birds seem unable to resist. Anxious, busy, birds wait on it with beaks filled with food, and soon the baby cuckoo looks like a feathered Gulliver in a

kingdom of Lilliputian attendants.

A CN reader who formerly owned an aviary of some 200 foreign birds, found the same law at work among his petted pensioners. When the death of its mate left a male budgerigar solely responsible for the upbringing of their four little ones, it was feared that the task would be too much for him. But prompt assistance came from a pair of lovebirds, and though their heads and beaks seemed gigantic compared with those of the babies, the self-appointed nurses proved an entire success.

Lord Grey of Fallodon made an interesting discovery concerning moorhens, the first brood of which he saw fed by the parents. These birds, on growing up, took over the feeding of the second brood of the season, but on sternly fixed lines. The parents put food into the beaks of brood number one, which forthwith transferred it to the mouths of brood two.

Only once was this order varied in the presence of observers, when one of the parents presumed to pop food straight into the mouth of one of the second brood. In an instant one of the earlier brood bustled up, took the food away from the nestling, then ceremoniously restored the titbit to the indignant infant's gaping mouth. Justice had been done and custom observed.



Five Seventh Birthdays

The Dilligenti quintuplets are here seen celebrating their seventh birthday at their home in Buenos Aires. They are Carlos, Maria Cristina, Maria Fernanda, Maria Ester, and Francisco.

OTHER PEOPLE'S JOBS—Alan Ivimey visits London Airport for a talk with an . . .

AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL OFFICER

ALTHOUGH the ordinary air passenger never sees him, it would be quite inaccurate to call the Air Traffic Control Officer a back-room boy. Up in his control tower on the airfield he is very much of a front-room boy with a grandstand view of all that goes on.

If his eyes see all round the big aerodrome his ears have a much bigger range, for he begins to talk to an approaching aircraft when it is thirty miles or more away.

I watched all this going on in the control tower at London Airport one afternoon when I went to have a talk with one of these Control Officers, Mr C. G. Endersby. His apprenticeship to the job had been first as a Spitfire and then as a Mosquito pilot during the war; then some experience of Flying Control in the R.A.F. In 1947 he joined the Air Traffic Control Branch of the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

THE control tower at London Airport has two decks. The upper, with the better view, is the Aerodrome Control dealing with aircraft in sight. The lower deck is the Approach Control which deals with aircraft at a distance by means of radio telephony, radio beacons, and other navigational aids. The whole tower is under a supervisor, who is the senior Control Officer, with a staff of 46.

I started off in the lower deck or Approach Control and took a look round. Facing the window, which ran the length of the wall on the airfield side, was a long desk and at it sat two Control Officers. To their left was the shiny grey box of the cathode-ray direction-finder and in front of them the radio telephone for speaking to aircraft, and a land-line telephone with a switchboard connecting with the

Control Centre at Uxbridge; with Northolt, the nearest big airfield to London Airport; with the "Met" buildings just outside; and so on. On the right was a device known as "Sali" (Stacking and Let-down Indicator). This gives the Control Officer at a glance the situation when there is a concentration of aircraft to deal with—say, when fog or some other cause has made neighbouring airfields unserviceable. Then there was a beacon display-board which showed each aircraft as it approached or left the airport according to which of the four radio beacons it was using.

THE Aerodrome Control Board on the upper deck is much smaller, with a control desk, seating two, a radio telephone, and a switchboard communicating with various points on the aerodrome.

"My job," said Endersby, "is the control of aircraft in and out of London Airport—as the regulations say—in a safe, orderly, and expeditious manner." The hours of work? Well, our day is divided into three eight-hour watches and we work on a roster accordingly.

"I left home, which is luckily quite near, at 12.30 this morning by motor-cycle, reached here at 12.40, and went straight to the 'Met' Office. I have to know, before starting work, what the local weather is, both here and all round, and what change may be expected.

"After a word with the fore-caster I go and unharness myself—overcoat, hat, and so on—and go up to one of the two decks according to whether I'm for duty on Approach or Aerodrome Control. Then I read the log, which is a written record of all that has happened on the previous watches, and sign it as

having been read and understood.

"Then the controller I am relieving 'puts me in the picture' as to which runway is in use and just what, if any, repair or construction work is being done on the airfield and exactly where. He tells me what aircraft are taking off, are due to take off, or to land. This is called 'the aircraft situation' and is shown visually on a chart. Then I take over.

"OUR job here deals with what is called the Metropolitan Control Zone, which is roughly the air-space over London and the Home Counties. According to the weather we use either Instrument Flight Rules (known as IFR) or Visual Flight Rules (VFR). The decision as to which it shall be at any particular moment rests with the Approach Co-ordinator at Uxbridge, who reviews the weather reports as they come in. You could alter from one state to the other almost any number of times a day. And at nightfall, naturally, it becomes IFR automatically.

"Under VFR there must be at least three miles' visibility; this means comparatively clear weather in which the captain of an aircraft can see all round and so needs no control from us till he is in sight of the airfield. Under such conditions the upper deck—the Aerodrome Control—appears to do most of the work. But as soon as conditions change to IFR the lower deck takes on, controlling aircraft by radio telephone.

"So far as an approaching aircraft is concerned, the tower takes over as the plane nears one of our four radio beacons. These are at Gravesend (for the Brussels, Frankfurt, and Istanbul routes), at Gatwick (Paris route), Dunsfold (Geneva, Lisbon, Rome), and Woodley, near Reading, for the trans-Atlantic routes. "The aircraft captain and the controller talk to each other over the air. I have to give him a height at which he must fly, the altimeter setting for the South-East Flight Information Region, and so on. If several aircraft come in together I 'stack' them at height intervals of 1000 feet. Then they can approach on the same course without danger. I bring them gradually down, keeping the same height interval, and then give them their turn to land.

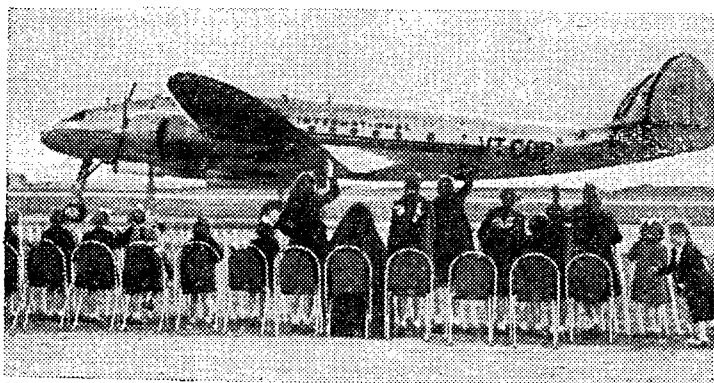
"Aircraft are under our control on the ground, too, till they are clear of the taxi track. And we



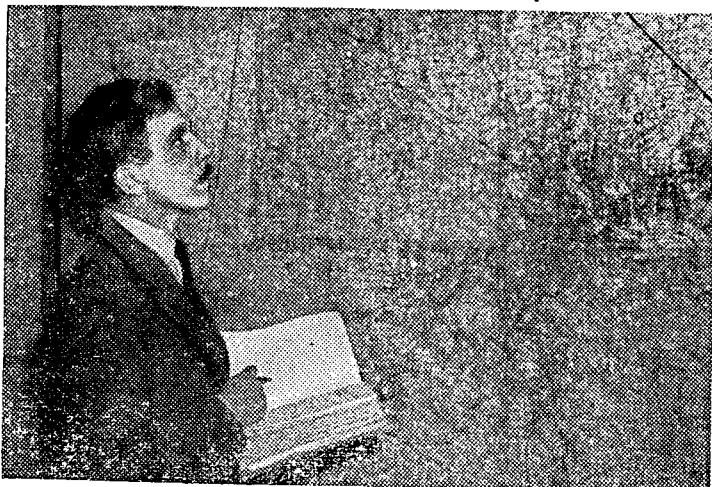
The Control Tower at London Airport. Approach Control is at balcony level and above that is Aerodrome Control



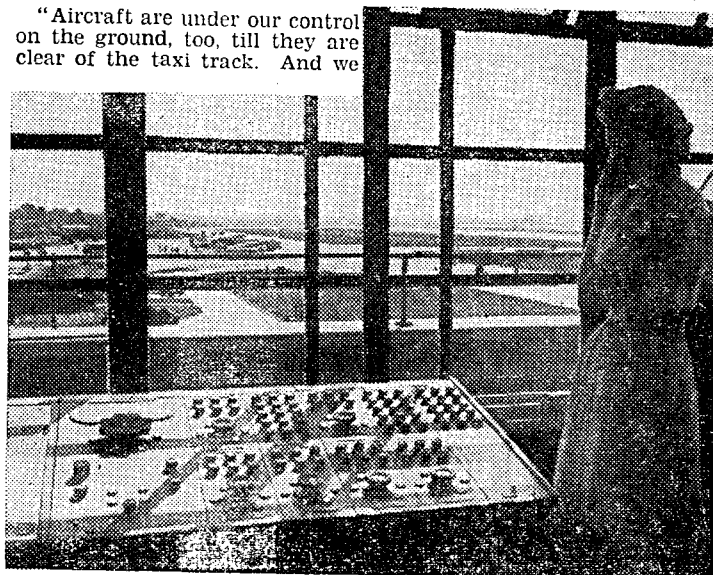
In the Approach Control room on the lower deck



Watching the planes arrive and depart



Mr Endersby studies the map of the Metropolitan Control Zone in the Approach Control room



The Aerodrome Control room, on the upper deck, affords a perfect view of the runways

have sometimes to pass messages from an aircraft about VIPs (Very Important Persons) who may be on board, or order a doctor to stand by in case a passenger is reported ill. And remember that about 34,000 aircraft used this field last year, with 390,000 passengers."

As I walked away the typical control-tower jargon began between a loudspeaker (whence came the voice of the captain of an approaching aircraft) and the Control Officer. It went like this:

Loudspeaker. "London Approach? This is Speedbird George — Able — How — Easy — Mike. Do you read? Over."

"Controller. "Hullo, Speedbird George — Able — How — Easy — Mike, this is London Approach. Reading you loud and clear. Over."

Perhaps you know just what all this meant? Or perhaps you can puzzle it out?



Tea With Shylock

On her 21st birthday Judith Stot (Nerissa) had tea with Robert Atkins (Shylock) in an interval during a performance of The Merchant of Venice at the Open Air Theatre in Regent's Park.

The Man Who Went Back

GENERAL DOUGLAS MACARTHUR, the American Supreme Commander of the United Nations forces engaged in the Korean war, is a tall, vigorous, alert man looking considerably less than his seventy years.

It might almost be said that he has always been a soldier, for he was born at an Army post in Arkansas, the son of an officer. In those days the Redskins were still on the war-path, and the future General was only four when his mother and a sergeant had to shelter him during an Indian raid.

However, his military career really began when he graduated from West Point Academy. At the age of 25 he was an official observer with the Jap forces during the Russo-Japanese War, and took part in a charge on the Russian positions at Mukden.

In the First World War he fought on the Western Front, and was twice wounded and once gassed.

It was MacArthur's idea to form a division composed of men from every State in the Union, and, as we might expect of such a colourful character, he named it the Rainbow Division, and personally led it into action in France.

He won altogether 13 decorations for gallantry under fire, and various Governments awarded him 24 decorations. When he was 50 he was appointed the youngest Chief of Staff America has ever had.

At the time of Japan's entry into the last war he was in command of the combined U.S. and Filipino forces in the Philippines. Pushed back by the overwhelming weight of the invaders, General MacArthur's little army was finally besieged on Bataan Peninsula, the mountainous western arm of Manila Bay.



General MacArthur

When it was plainly hopeless for the defenders to hold out any longer, President Roosevelt ordered General MacArthur to make his escape to Australia, and the garrison surrendered.

But time brought a dramatic revenge, for it was MacArthur who planned the American offensive against the Philippines in 1944. A year later he stood on the deck of the U.S.S. Missouri in Tokyo Bay to receive Japan's unconditional surrender.

We may be sure that such an eventful career will reach its climax when General MacArthur stands on the 38th Parallel in Korea under the flag of the United Nations.

TELLING THE WORLD

WE are the greatest readers of newspapers in the world, one daily newspaper being sold for every two persons, but the Americans are the greatest radio enthusiasts, with 566 sets for every 1000 persons. We come second with 227 sets per 1000 people. The people of Pakistan, at the other end of the list, have only one set per 1000.

These and other interesting facts are given in *World Communications* (Stationery Office, 7s), recently compiled by Unesco.

The total world circulation of newspapers is nearly 219 million a day. In Russia there are publications in about 70 languages.

There are over 44 million cinema seats in the world, of which Britain's share, in 1948, was 4,200,000 in 4827 cinemas.

But the most ample accommodation in cinemas is in tiny Monaco, which has 190 seats for every 1000 people; next comes Australia with 182; New Zealand, 149; Britain, 84; and the U.S., 83. At the bottom comes India with 4, China, Indo-China, and Ethiopia, with one each.

The only four countries in the world broadcasting regular television programmes are the United States, outstanding with 98 stations and over 3,700,000 sets; Britain, France, and Russia with two transmitters each. Their estimated sets are: Britain, 250,000; France, 25,000; and Russia, 50,000.

World Communications is the first attempt to survey all the facilities in the world for giving information and ideas to people by the Press, Radio, and Film.

DEVELOPING THE HIGHLANDS

FOR over a century the continuous drain of population from the Highlands has been one of Scotland's most serious problems. Too often the glens north of the Highland line bear a close resemblance to Goldsmith's Deserted Village:

*Sunk are thy bowers in shapeless ruin all,
And the long grass o'ertops the mouldering wall;
And, trembling, shrinking from the spoiler's hand,
Far, far away, thy children leave the land.*

In recent years, however, the problem has received more attention, and now the Government has published a *Programme of Highland Development* which, if carried out, should greatly help in the task of re-populating the glens.

The programme covers the whole of the life of the Highlands. The most important need is for more houses, and the expansion of such services as water supply and drainage, roads, and electricity. Cattle are to be increased in the lower glens, and the Forestry Commission are at present pressing forward with a long-term plan for planting more trees.

At the same time Scotland's Highlands are to be made more attractive to tourists. Mineral and other natural resources of the Highlands are to receive attention; existing industries, especially textiles, are to be fostered, and new ones established.

Stone-Axe Factory 4000 Years Old

IMPORTANT excavations are being carried out in the Langdale Valley, Westmorland, site of a Stone Age factory of some 4000 years ago. The factory was the centre of an extensive trade, weapons and instruments being produced for all parts of the country and also for Ireland.

More than 130 roughly-cut stone axes have been collected from or near the site. It is thought that the hewing of the rock took place in late spring or summer, and that the rough material was carried away to be finished at a more permanent settlement beyond the valley during the winter.

Overhaul



Three Boy Scouts of the first Southwark Group make a final inspection before the start of a semi-final of the Soap Box Derby. The finals will be run at Brighton in September.

The Editor's Table

HIGH HOLIDAY

AUGUST is the traditional month of high holiday in Britain, when thousands of town-dwellers sally forth "in holiday humour" to seashore, countryside, and mountain.

A good holiday is everyone's right. Holidays with pay are an established custom in most industries; and for those who like excitement and organised fun during their fortnight there are camps and hostels in abundance.

In spite of Britain's crowded industrial life our land is still a lovely place for holidays. The lonely moors and hills are ideal for tramping, alone or in small companies. Footpaths and trails are being opened up as the people's possession, and soon it will be possible to walk the mountain ridge of central and northern England in all its wild magnificence.

People differ in their ideas of a good holiday. But the essential element is change—a fact realised by Shakespeare when he wrote that

If all the year were playing holidays,

To sport would be as tedious as to work.

TEACHERS AS DEFENDERS OF DEMOCRACY

ARSENALS for the defence of our democratic ideals was how Mr George Thomas, M.P., described our schools the other day.

"Teachers are in the front line in the battle for the defence of our way of life," he said, "and the quality of our teachers is a matter of the first concern."

"We live in a changing world, where many moral standards accepted by our fathers have been discarded. It is a propagandist world, a world of mass thinking, a world of the Press and the radio; and the work of the schools is of paramount importance if we are to keep the independence of thought of which we have been proud in bygone days. The aim of the education service ought to be to produce men who are men."

LIBERTY AND DISCIPLINE

"You can have discipline without liberty, but you can't have liberty without discipline."

So said Field-Marshal Sir William Slim, Chief of the Imperial General Staff, in a recent broadcast to the people of Australia.

If you get up from a chair in which you are sitting, and take out your car or bicycle, you can choose where you want to go—your own destination. That, said Sir William, is liberty. But as you drive or ride through the streets towards it, you will keep to the left of the road. That, Sir William said, is discipline.

We who believe in democracy must submit to such discipline if we are to keep our most precious heritage.

Going to the People

JOHN WESLEY would have rejoiced at the zeal displayed at the recent Bradford Conference of the Methodist Church. For the plans made there to re-light the fires of vital religion in the North of England were in the high tradition of that great campaigner.

Wesley took religion to the people. That is precisely what modern Methodists propose to do. Wesley went on horseback. They will use motor-cars, cineramas, loudspeakers, travelling book-shops, and caravans.

Whatever the method, the message of the Christian faith is the same, and must be carried to the people. Wesley found England veering dangerously away from Christianity. He brought multitudes of her people back to a more vital religion by going out to reach them where they lived and worked.

The methods of John Wesley are well worth reviving today.

The Year That Matters

THE wisdom of making the age of eleven a decisive factor in a child's career was questioned in Parliament recently.

Miss A. Bacon said that, since the Hadow Report, all educational development centred upon the age of eleven. "Not only is that the age when children pass from primary to secondary school," she said, "but it is becoming the age at which a child's whole future is irrevocably settled. That is wrong."

Another Labour M.P., Mr King, agreed with her and said: "No child in the land ought to be regarded as a failure at eleven plus. The barriers between the three kinds of secondary education should not be final at that age. It ought to be possible at any age to transfer a child from one stream to another."

Most teachers and parents will, we think, agree that barriers of this kind should not be rigid.

Some children's minds develop very late.

Under the



PETER PUCK
WANTS TO
KNOW

If soap has any
face value

ALL sky signs are illegal by law says a speaker. Hard on the weather prophets.

CAN you peel a potato in the dark? It's a question of eyes.

IN Burma elephants are being smuggled on a large scale. Wouldn't go on a small one.

A NEWSPAPER article gives useful tips for arranging flowers. Vases are more useful.

THINGS SAID

GETTING information from the Treasury about sterling balances is like extracting the back teeth of a mule.

Oliver Lyttelton, M P

I do not think myself that there is a greater war imminent.

Winston Churchill

It is most important that children should get a grasp of their mother tongue. The ability to read, to write, and to speak it is the gateway to knowledge, which should be as wide open as possible.

W. S. Morrison, M P

THE children are now more road safety minded than adults.

Lord Lucas

WHAT we have to do all over the free world is to brace ourselves to the true facts of life, not pretend.

Australia's Prime Minister

OUR PART

"WE are engaged in a race between education and catastrophe," declared the Director-General of Unesco to an educational conference at Montreal.

This conference was discussing the teaching of geography as a means of developing international understanding. Another conference at Brussels has been considering the teaching of history not as just a succession of battles, a calendar of violence, but as a means of pointing the way towards world community and underlining the solidarity which unites men.

Here, indeed, is the vital task before all of us now at school; to acquire knowledge of the rest of the world, outside our own particular countries, in such a way that we shall be mentally equipped to play our part in averting the catastrophe of war.

JUST AN IDEA

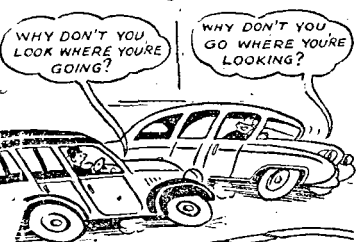
As General Evangeline Booth said, *It is not how many years we live, but what we do with them. It is not what we possess, but what we are. It is not what we receive, but what we give unto others.*

Editor's Table

BOY Wanted for Cutting Room, says a tailor's advertisement. Hope they give him a saw.

WAITERS say that dress suits are terrifically hot in hot weather. So are the people in them.

AN Irish radio actor wants to try the American stage. What has it been doing?



ICA has designed a car with a speaker horn so that motorists can bad drivers. The sort to appeal to us.

Rush-Bearing at Grasmere

THE lovely custom of rush-bearing, still observed in many country districts in Britain, is nowhere of deeper interest and greater antiquity than at Grasmere in Westmorland. For hundreds of years, without any break in the sequence, the ceremony has been observed there on the Saturday nearest to St Oswald's Day (August 5).

The ceremony of rush-bearing is a definite link with pre-Christian times. Many scholars believe it to have originated in the Roman *Floralia* Festival. Furthermore, in the Middle Ages, when the churches were not fitted with floor-boards, the rushes strewn on the cold, hard stones were a necessity. It became customary to renew the rushes yearly on the Patronal Festival of a church.

This year's ceremony at Grasmere on Saturday will follow the traditional lines—a procession headed by six "maids of honour," chosen from junior girls in Grasmere School, and including the Village Band playing the Rush-bearing March.

The girls carry a sheet full of rushes, and the villagers follow with their "rush-bearings" made up into skilful designs such as the crown of St Oswald, maypoles, and an Ark or basket depicting the sojourn in the bulrushes of the baby Moses.

A service in church follows, and at its conclusion all the children are presented with a gift of gingerbread and a newly-minted penny. The rush-bearings are kept in the church until Monday, when they are reclaimed by the bearers, who then go to the school field for sports and tea.

FEATHER BEDS NOT WANTED

MODERN young people were given some qualified praise by Mr Heathcoat Amory, M P, not long ago.

He said that the boys and girls of today were miles ahead compared with those of an earlier age; they were more adaptable, more friendly, and better behaved. But, he said, they were lacking in doggedness and tenacity; they expected to have things made easy for them, and to be "feather-bedded."

Young people will be pleased with Mr Heathcoat Amory's compliments, but most of them, we venture to say, still scorn the feather bed.

NATURE THE TEACHER

AND hark! how blithe the throstle sings!

He too is no mean preacher: Come forth into the light of things,

Let Nature be your teacher.

William Wordsworth

INVISIBLE STRENGTH

THE most wonderful and the strongest things in the world, you know, are just the things that no one can see.

Charles Kingsley



Hand-Stand

Zofia Krupianka, of Poland, gives a fine performance of hand-stand balancing on the bars during the World Gymnastic Championships at Basle, Switzerland.

FAMOUS MAORI LEADER

A MAORI who was looked on by his own people as one of their greatest leaders, Sir Apirana Turupa Ngata, has died at the age of 73.

He devoted his life to his people, who in the last century were declining in health, morale, and numbers, because the spread of European civilisation was upsetting their tribal way of life.

The son of a chief, Apirana went to school at the Te Aute Maori Boys' College, and then to Canterbury University College, where at 22 he became Master of Arts and Bachelor of Laws—the first Maori to receive a university degree.

Becoming a barrister, he helped the Maoris to use their tribal organisation in modernising the farm, consolidating and developing ancestral lands, encouraging arts and crafts, and making higher education more accessible.

Sir Apirana was a member of the NZ Parliament from 1905 until 1943. He held ministerial offices and became the "Father of the House."

He was a great scholar in Maori lore, helping to revise the Maori Bible and the Maori dictionary.

Walking to Win

ROLAND HARDY, of Chesterfield, who set up a new British all-comers record of 50 minutes 11.6 seconds for the seven miles walk in the AAA Championships, became an athlete through walking to work!

Two years ago when his bicycle was out of action he had to walk to his work as a maintenance fitter. He enjoyed the exercise and began walking to work every day. He compared his times for the distance with those of the champion walkers—and decided to take up walking seriously.

FOR THE OLD FOLKS

RHYL, in North Wales, has offered holidays for 50 shillings a week to old-age pensioners, between September 16 and October 28. Within a short time of the offer bookings were made by 7480 pensioners from the Birmingham area, 2500 from South Staffordshire, and 600 from Bolton, in addition to parties from Associations. At that rate it is estimated that 50,000 old-age pensioners will take their holidays at Rhyl during the six-week period.

All Welsh Roads Lead to Caerphilly

Is it Peace? Three times will this challenging question be asked of the vast audience assembled at the National Eisteddfod of Wales during August Bank holiday week, and three times will the answer be given in unmistakable tones.

Last year the Eisteddfod was held in North Wales; this year it is the turn of South Wales, and thousands of ardent Welshmen will wend their way to Caerphilly, an industrial town resting pleasantly in a basin among the hills in the Rhymney Valley about seven miles to the north of Cardiff. The Eisteddfod pavilion will stand under the shadow of the noble ruins of Caerphilly Castle with its leaning tower.

The National Eisteddfod is the one institution in Wales that binds all kinds of people into one—rich and poor, the scholarly and not so brilliant, politicians and preachers of all classes and creeds. Here they talk Welsh and their differences disappear.

Competition

There are competitions among the sons and daughters of Wales in the arts and the intellectual and spiritual attainments. Competitions in string and wind instruments range from playing the harp and the cornet to full-sized orchestras and bands. There are children's choirs, and choirs of 250 grown-ups, and they compete for prizes ranging from £50 to £200.

There are also competitions in recitations and extempore reading for boys and girls, and competitions for dramatic societies.

The essayist can pit his learning against a fellow countryman for prizes of £100 and more, the dramatist is encouraged to write a new play in open competition, while the linguists are invited to translate the best of European culture for use in school, college, and home.

A president is invited for each day—some person of note whose duty it is to deliver an address at the morning session. The proceedings are really in charge of a conductor who is chosen for his gifts in handling the great crowd. He must possess a powerful voice, the gift of tact, and a wealth of humour with which to keep the vast audience in a good mood. More than one conductor serves during this strenuous week, and they work in relays.

The National Eisteddfod has survived the centuries. Thomas Love Peacock, for example, describes a Bardic Congress held in the Court of King Arthur at Caerleon. In the Gorsedd—an early-morning meeting of the Bards held before the daily sessions—there are relics of Druidical ceremonies. The chief of the Bardic Circle is still called Archdruid; and the bards are dressed in colourful robes.

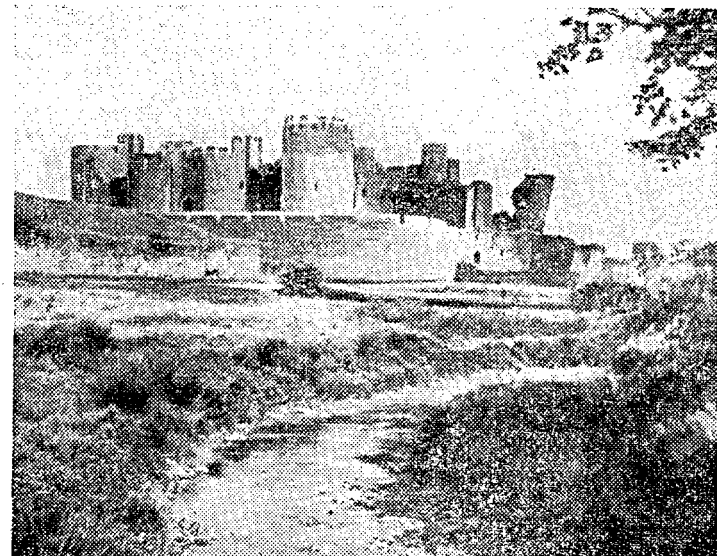
One of the most spectacular events is the chairing of the bard. The prize for the best poem is a sum of money and a beautifully-carved high-backed chair. The adjudication is given by one of the bards. The name of the victor, which is a pseudonym, is loudly proclaimed, and if he is present he is requested to stand up on his feet.

He stands up, usually at the back of the audience, among the cheap seats! Two of the bards leave the platform. They reach the victor and escort him to the platform to the strains—strangely enough—of the English marching song *See the Conquering Hero Comes*. His identity is proclaimed to the audience.

Chairing the Bard

The victor is made to sit in the chair, and the Bardic Circle gathers round him. The Archdruid lifts a great unsheathed sword high above the victor's head, and then comes the call to the audience. *Is it Peace?* he demands. *Peace!* is the full-throated reply from more than a thousand people. Three times the challenging question is asked of the audience, and three times comes the same answer. The sword is thrust back into its scabbard and the bard is duly chaired and congratulated by his fellow-bards in appropriate poetical compositions.

The National Eisteddfod of Wales is still growing, and it has a special hold upon the hearts of Welsh folk. Its future is assured, for the children of Wales also have their own Eisteddfod held annually under similar conditions.



OUR HOMELAND

The ruins of Caerphilly Castle, Glamorganshire

Steam Power From Underground

RESERVOIRS of natural steam hundreds of feet underground exist in New Zealand and elsewhere, and from them come hot springs and geysers. New Zealanders are planning to use their own hidden steam supplies to drive turbines and generate much-needed electricity.

Recently a grant of £80,000 was made by the New Zealand Government for further attempts to tap underground steam in the thermal area of Wairakei, Rotorua, North Island, a thermal area of about 3000 square miles. There are many hot springs on the surface of the ground at Wairakei, but the scientists are concentrating their interest on the rock-imprisoned steam reservoirs hundreds of feet underground.

This harnessing of natural steam to generate electricity has already been tried out in Italy and New Zealand engineers have visited the Italian undertaking.

Already at Wairakei five drilling plants have been in action to reach down to the reservoirs, and from one of the bores a jet of steam has been shooting 60 feet high.

New Zealand suffers from a shortage of electric power. Dams have been built on rivers to produce hydro-electric power, but in the dry season the rivers shrink and the use of electricity has to be restricted.

If the tapping of this hidden reserve of natural steam power is successful it will prove a great benefit to New Zealand industry.

TRAVELLING SCHOLARSHIPS

THE Over-Seas League is offering a number of Empire Travelling Scholarships to British schoolboys who will be between the ages of 16 and 18 on January 31, 1951.

The scholarships will be awarded after an essay competition and interview, and will enable winners to spend three or four weeks overseas. The winner of the first prize will go to Africa. The object is to encourage a wider and more practical knowledge of the Commonwealth.

Euclid, one of the greatest of the Greek mathematicians, is said to have founded the mathematical school of Alexandria during the reign of Ptolemy I, in the 3rd century B.C. His greatest work is known as *ELEMENTS*.



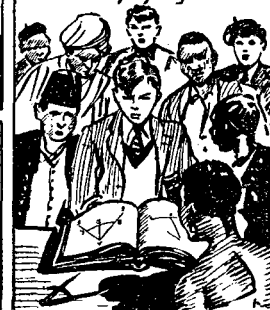
Pioneers 33. EUCLID, the geometry man

When King Ptolemy asked if there was any shorter way of learning Geometry than by studying the 13 books of *ELEMENTS*, Euclid tersely replied, "There is no royal road to Geometry."



Euclid had a passion for proof. He is said to have covered the whole floor of a room with sand, which he used as a great drawing board to work out his propositions.

Euclid's work has guided the steps of students for over 2000 years. His most famous proposition is known as *Pons Asinorum* (Bridge of Asses) since it is regarded as the critical point in the study of Geometry by beginners.



GROWING UP ON TWO MEALS A WEEK

ONE way of not getting too fed up with things is to be a Royal Albatross chick, for its parents feed it only twice a week!

Some interesting facts about this extremely rare giant seabird have been sent to us by a C.N. reader in New Zealand, who tells us that near Dunedin there is a colony of them which local ornithologists are strenuously protecting.

More information about the Royal Albatross is largely due to the patient efforts of a New

Zealand naturalist, Mr L. E. Richdale, who has written an account of his observations in the *N.Z. Listener*. The bird's family affairs are strange indeed. Mrs lays only one egg, and she and Mr take turns in hatching it out. A turn sometimes lasts 14 days, during which time the sitter has no food. Hatching the one egg keeps them busy for 78 to 80 days.

This is believed to be the longest incubation period of any bird in the world, though the

kiwi runs it close with 75 to 78 days.

When young RA appears it is a delightful ball of white fluff with two bright black eyes. Its parents have white bodies and black wings, and soon the growing black wings begin to show through the chick's white down.

For its first three months the chick has only two meals a week. It had been thought by naturalists that the chick's parents gave up feeding it altogether when it was three or four months old, the chick living on its fat until it was old enough to get food for itself. However, Mr Richdale has observed that the parents feed it more frequently as it grows older, meals being increased even to the indigestible number of five a week!

It is actually the chick that deserts the parents, and one day they come home to find their baby has departed.

By this time the parents have been engaged for about eleven and a half months on hatching-out and bringing up Junior—and the next nesting season is only two weeks away! But the parents decide to take a year's holiday, and another egg is not laid for about 12 months. The young birds, too, have a long holiday from family cares, for they do not start breeding until they are ten years old, which seems to suggest that the Royal Albatross lives to a great age.

Holidays at School

THE children of the Transvaal have had a Bill passed in the South African Parliament specially for their benefit. It is the "take-your-holidays-while-you-go-to-school!" Bill, though officially it bears the more formidable name of Financial Relations Amendment Act.

When it comes into force Transvaal schoolchildren will be able to combine business with pleasure—to have a lovely time at the seaside without missing a day's schooling.

In many ways the schoolchildren of the Transvaal have fewer advantages than boys and girls in other parts of South Africa. Most of them live hundreds of miles from the coast. It is reckoned that less than one per cent of them have ever seen the sea.

It is to help the underprivileged child, and especially the child who is convalescing from malaria—very prevalent in the low veld—that the Bill has been passed. Such a measure was necessary because it would otherwise have been illegal for the Transvaal to put up its own schools in Natal or the Cape.

Now that has become possible, and the plan is to establish a whole chain of holiday-schools along the union's 3000 miles of coast line. Classes of thirty pupils or so, with books and blackboard complete, will occupy a seaside camp for a term at a time and then make way for another class.

In this way every child in the Transvaal will go to the coast at least once in the course of its schooldays.

How to Sell Poetry

PARIS has recently seen a festival of barrow boys who offered for sale, not grapes or potatoes, but poems they had composed; and poets of established fame attended the street market to commend the poems and urge their sale.

Thousands of people in London remember Craig, whom everybody called "The Surrey Poet." He could have taught the young French poets how to dispose of their productions.

For years Craig was seen and heard at the Oval when the Surrey County team was there playing cricket. There he would sell for a penny printed copies of the poems he had written on the times and the matches of the period. He wheedled and joked and flattered, and the crowds loved him. As he collected the pence with hasty hands he would say, "Anybody could write my poetry, but who in all the world, except myself, could sell it?"

Although the shrewd old artist in doggerel was always known as the Surrey poet, he vended his sheets and cracked his jokes in the broad dialect of his native county, Yorkshire.

PRIZEWINNERS

July Competition Results

THE Prize Bicycle in our third monthly competition has been won by

BRIAN STREETER,
171 Ditchling Road,
Brighton 6, Sussex,

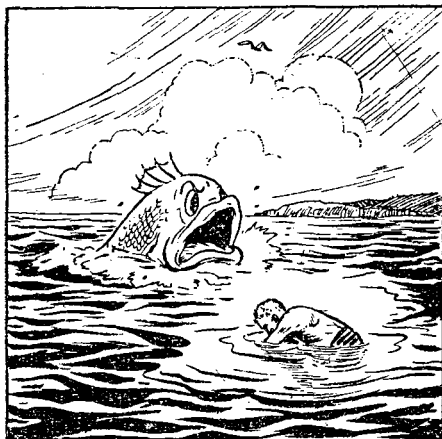
whose solution of the jig-saw puzzle was correct and the most neatly-written according to age.

Only six other entrants succeeded in giving all-correct answers, and each of these wins a Camera or a Meccano Set, as chosen. These prizewinners are: ERIC BIRCHALL, Bolton; MARGARET DRABBLE, Sheffield 7; MARIAN GERISH, Melksham; SUZAN MILLER, Langholm; R. SANDERS, East Grinstead; ANGELA TAYLOR, Chester.

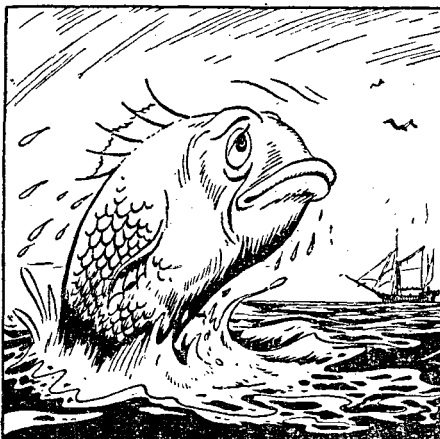
CORRECT SOLUTION: Palette, Coat-hook, Bucket (or Pail), Axe, Spoon, Trowel, Paint or Paste Tube, Dragon-Fly, Clothes Peg, Quince, Candlestick, Tomato.

Another grand competition is announced on page 9. Your entry may win a bicycle or a camera.

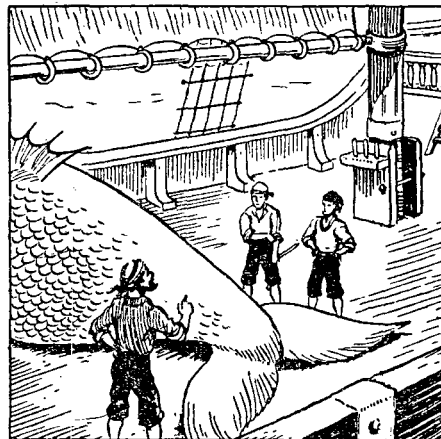
BARON MUNCHAUSEN—Picture-Version of His Astonishing Adventures (6)



The Baron said his ship escaped from the whale when the anchor cable broke. Then he related to his friends an adventure he had in the Mediterranean. He said he was bathing near Marseilles when an enormous fish approached with its jaws open. He could not escape, so he rolled himself up small and thus passed into the stomach of the fish.



"It occurred to me that by giving him pain he would be glad to get rid of me," said the Baron. "As I had plenty of room I played my pranks, such as tumbling, hop, skip, and jump, but nothing seemed to disturb him so much as the quick motion of my feet in attempting to dance a hornpipe. He roared, and stood up almost perpendicularly in the water."



In this position the fish was seen by the crew of an Italian trader who harpooned it. "As soon as he was on board I heard the crew consulting how they should cut him up so as to preserve the greatest quantity of oil. I understood Italian, and I was afraid lest their weapons should destroy me also, therefore I remained as near the centre as possible."



When the crew cut the fish open the Baron called out lustily. The Italians were astounded to hear a human voice come from a fish, and more so when a man walked out on the deck! "Amazement struck them dumb," said the Baron. "After taking some refreshment I jumped into the sea and swam to my clothes which lay where I had left them on the shore."

See next week's C.N. for the Baron's account of his extraordinary exploit at the Siege of Gibraltar

Another Adventure of Jonty, Nat, and Pen

THE TRAIL of the BLACK TREASURE

by GARRY HOGG

"WELL," said Nat, "we can pretty well ignore the first verse, I should think."

They were poring over another of Uncle Rodney's mysterious Trail Letters that had just arrived in Wisbech, where they were staying. Pen read it out once more:

What would you think if, in some mining town,
No slag-heaps gaunt, or towering pit-head gear,
Or railway-sidings, or great drifts of smoke,
Or crowds of coal-grimed miners did appear?

"Well, any bright ideas, anybody?"

Nat and Jonty shook their heads. "There were some words in capitals in the second verse," Nat said. "That's always important. Read on Pen."

You'd think it odd; yet such a place there is,
A SUFFOLK township small, a BORDER town;
Near here, ten thousand years ago, men mined
For TREASURE DARK, in pits that went deep down!

"It's in Suffolk," Nat said. "But on the border. Question is, which border—Norfolk, Essex, Cambridge?"

Pen read on:

To find it? First, from Bury to King's Lynn
A line you'll draw, as straight as Ermine Street;
Next, draw a line from Norwich to St Ives:
The place you want is where the two lines meet!

"A map and a ruler's what we want next, then," said Jonty. "Where are some?"

They found a straight-edge, and a small-scale map in the front of the telephone-book. The two ruled lines crossed very close to a town named Brandon, on the Norfolk border.

"Twenty-five miles," Nat said. "Two hours, on these level roads. Let's hear the last verse again, Pen. We can chew them over while we ride."

Now, when you get there, keep a good look out,
For men at ARMS are BREAKING STONES for pay;
Though GRIME is GRAVE, no coal-dust will be found

When you have said farewell to light of day!

Pen looked up. "All plain sailing for three verses. The sting's in the tail."

"It's the best place to have stings," Jonty remarked. "Scorpions can sting themselves to death, though I can't think why they ever do. I wouldn't, if I was a scorpion, because I'd know I was all-mighty. I read what happened to a chap once who put his bare foot into a boot where a scorpion was resting. He—"

But Nat and Pen had gone.

Two hours later they crossed the ancient bridge into Brandon. Jonty spotted a shop where they could buy cooling drinks with weird names and often, Pen thought, even weirder tastes. They ate their sandwiches and drank from their bottles in the shade, the sheet of verses lying open between them.

"Arms — Breaking — Stones — Grime — Grave," Nat repeated slowly "Words in capitals. But what do they say?"

"Let's look round, shall we?" Jonty suggested. "We might get an idea."

They set off to explore, and came to an inn-sign which read: Flint-Knappers Arms.

"What are 'knappers'?" Jonty asked, but was interrupted by Nat.

"Listen!"

From behind a wall at the back came a rhythmic tap-tapping, clear and musical. As they listened, a pattern of sounds and words began to weave itself in Pen's mind: Arms—Flint: Stone—Knapping: Breaking...

"Nat," she said urgently, "flint's a stone. Praps 'knapping' is breaking?"

Feeling real trespassers, they went through a wicket-gate, and found two men at work, each with a pile of large flints to one side, a flint boulder on a pad on his knee, and a bucket of flint-chips at his feet. It was the tap-tap of their hammers that they had heard.

"Can we watch for a minute?" Nat asked.

One of the men nodded, without stopping work. Behind them, through a doorway, they could see other men, each at a bench with a pile of flint-chips and a miniature anvil and a very light hammer.

Then a foreman emerged to talk to them. "Ay," he said, "we're flint-knappers. Gun-flints for African tribesmen's flint-locks, that's what we're making. They must eat flints, to judge by the number we export there! But it's a dying art, flint-knapping. There's no-one following on to learn our trade, and it's a pity, for men have been mining flint here for—well, ten thousand years!"

SOME more fragments of Uncle Rodney's verses clicked into position: Mines, 10,000 years old! "Why do they call it 'dark treasure'?" she asked.

"Because the best flint's black. There's three grades: the 'top-stone,' inferior stuff, near the surface; 'wallstone,' a bit better; and the 'floorstone'—the real dark flint the old miners wanted for tools and weapons. You can see it for yourself, any time."

"Here?" Jonty asked.

"Not far from here. At Grime's Graves."

"Grime is Grave," Pen murmured.

Continued on page 10



Mars
are marvellous

CN Monthly Competition No 4

1st PRIZE: A BICYCLE

Cameras For Runners-Up

HERE is another attractive competition for you—with another grand New Bicycle as chief prize for the best correct entry received by Tuesday, August 15. And there will be a splendid camera awarded to each of the six runners-up, so get your pen or pencil and enter now!

As you can see, our artist has drawn a picture of a fair—but it is no ordinary fair, because unknown to the holidaymakers there are nine animals loose in it! Now, all you have to do in this competition is to find and name these nine animals! For instance, you will soon see the head of a BEAVER if you look hard. Now it is up to you to name the other eight! To help you, here is a list of animals—and it contains the names of all those that are hidden:

Goat, Horse, Wolf, Rhinoceros, Hare, Bear, Elephant, Cat, Otter, Zebra, Walrus, Beaver, Giraffe, Pig, Tiger, Camel, Cow, Leopard.

Write your list of nine animals on a postcard or sheet of paper, and put your name, address, and age at the top right-hand corner. If you cannot see or recognise all the nine animals, send names of as many of them as you can!

Then cut out and pin or paste on your completed entry the competition token (marked "CN Token") and given at the foot of the back page of this issue), and ask your parent, guardian, or teacher to sign your entry as being your own written work. Post to:

CN Competition No 4, 5 Carmelite Street, London, E.C.4 (Comp),

to arrive by TUESDAY, August 15.

Remember to write or print your entry as neatly as you can, because handwriting in relation to age will be taken into account to decide ties for any of the prizes.

This competition is open to all readers under 17 in Great Britain, all Ireland, and the Channel Islands. The Editor's decision will be final.



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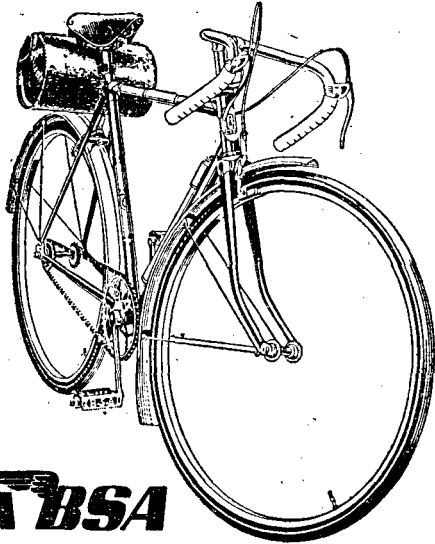
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The Trail of the Black Treasure

Continued from page 9

mured softly. "That's the last piece of the jigsaw in position," she said out loud.

The man looked at her inquiringly, and she explained. "Well," he said, "it's easy enough to find them. Take the road over the old bridge. Fork right after two miles. Half a mile, and you'll be in a plantation. There's a 'ride' through it, you can walk or cycle it. Another half-mile and you'll see the old flint-mines."

THEY thanked him, and were off like a shot. At the plantation they left their cycles and set off hot-foot along the "ride," through a gateway, over a stile, till they came to a man with a bunch of keys in his hand and a big torch sticking out of his coat pocket.

He led the way to a curious circular depression in the turf, railed in. Once inside, they went down a few turf steps to a bigish trap-door heavily bolted and padlocked.

"Why the precautions?" Nat asked.

"You'll see in a moment," the man grunted as he heaved up the heavy trap-door he had unlocked. They stared down into blackness out of which the top rungs of an iron ladder could be seen glinting in the sunlight. "I'll go down first," he said. "Watch your step."

They followed him down, his big torch shining brightly beneath them, lighting up the cold white walls of chalk. "We've had people come here," he explained at the bottom, "and they've fallen down. The chalk muffled their cries and they weren't discovered for days. Easy enough to get down; impossible to get up."

THEY were at the bottom of a round shaft perhaps thirty or forty feet deep, walled with sheer hard chalk in which horizontal bands could be picked out—the topstone, wallstone, and, right at the bottom, the precious floorstone the foreman had told them about.

"How did they do their mining in the old days?" Jonty asked, subdued by the darkness and the chill.

"Some of 'em used stone axes. Others used antlers of red deer."

SHARKS ON VIEW

THE warm Mozambique current which sweeps down Africa's east coast from the tropics washes the Natal coast and makes Durban one of the happiest seaside holiday resorts in the world.

But there is another ocean current, from the Southern Atlantic, which mingles with the Mozambique waters and provides an extraordinarily rich fishing ground; so rich, indeed, that only recently have biologists finished a job they began some years ago—counting the different kinds of sea life in Durban waters.

Already, according to Professor S. Bush, Professor of Zoology at Natal University, they have identified 1200 species.

And Durban is to have a new £85,000 marine research station, with a 32-foot tank which will enable the people to watch sharks, rays, skates, and eels swimming among rocks

We've found some of their tools half-buried in the chalk and flint where they left 'em when they went away, perhaps three thousand years ago. I'll show you some of our 'finds,' later."

"What about getting the stuff to the surface?" Nat asked.

"They used spades made out of wood, and sometimes ox-scapulae—that's shoulder-blades. We've found those, too. And baskets on the end of ropes—we've found the grooves they made. And the lamps they used in the galleries. Made out of chalk, with a wick floating in some animal-fat. Look," he went on, and they bent down to see where his torch was pointing. "That's smoke from a miner's lamp, still clinging to the chalk!"

"Gosh!" said Jonty. "They must have been pretty small chaps to work in galleries like these."

"They were. We know that because a miner's skeleton was found buried beneath a fall of chalk roof. But not in *this* mine!" he added quickly.

Pen looked longingly at the circle of blue sky over their heads. "I think I've seen all I want to see, down here at any rate," she said. "Couldn't we go up, now?"

Jonty was part-way along a low gallery. The man, humouring her, pulled him out by one leg, and led the way back to the base of the ladder. He sent Pen up first, and came up last himself. He carefully locked and bolted the trap-door, and then the four of them went off to his wooden shed where he told them he kept his "finds"—the antler-picks, the shoulder-blade spades, the worked flints, the axe-heads, all gritty and white, and some of them actually still showing the finger-prints of the ancient miners who had worked there before the dawn of history.

"I WOULDN'T have minded one of those picks," Jonty remarked, as they pedalled leisurely home. "You could do things with it. Pity we didn't see any skeletons down there, though. Or ghosts of miners buried by falls of rock!"

"Come on, Nat," Pen said, accelerating briskly. "Jonty's getting morbid once again!"

Jonty, Nat, and Pen will be off on another adventure next week.

Festival Church

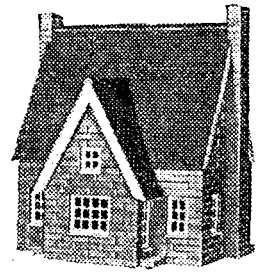
ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, Waterloo Road, London, has been chosen as the official Festival Church for the Festival of Britain in 1951.

St John's was one of four daughter churches of the parish of Lambeth which were built as a national thanksgiving for the victory of Waterloo. It was destroyed by bombs in 1940, but it is now being rebuilt and will stand at the entrance to the South Bank site of the Festival.

THE THIRD MAN?

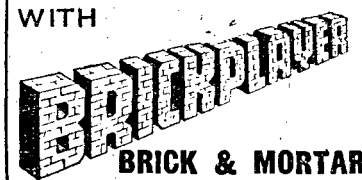
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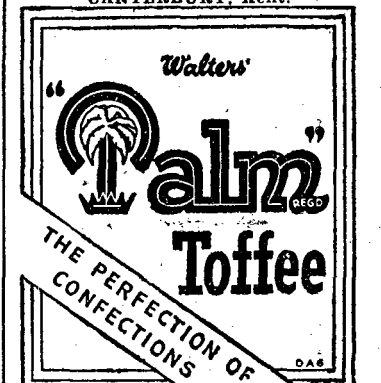
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Head, Heart, Hands, Health

NINE young Americans, members of "4-H Clubs," are travelling round Britain learning about British farming. They are all young farmers, and their organisation takes its name from the motto "Head, Heart, Hands, and Health."

In the United States there are about 82,000 4-H Clubs, with a membership of 1,850,000 boys and girls. They are similar to our Young Farmers' Clubs.

Last year America's 4-H Clubs canned 27,000,000 quarts of fruits, vegetables, and meat; prepared and stored 6,000,000 additional pounds of food; and they raised 850,000 cattle, sheep, and hogs, 8,000,000 chickens, turkeys, ducks, and geese, and 100,000 acres of garden products.

In addition to farm work, they

prepared and served 30,000,000 meals, made 2,200,000 garments, beautified 120,000 back gardens, and were useful in 450,000 homes with home management projects and music-appreciation courses.

After spending three weeks in Scotland the young farmers from the United States came South for the Royal Agricultural Show, and have visited many of the English County Agricultural Shows.

It is costing the 4-H Clubs about 900 dollars to keep each young visitor in this country until October; but when they return home they will have to help repay their debt by giving nearly a hundred lectures on their visit, as well as several broadcasts on farming and home life in Britain.

SHROPSHIRE SCHOOL'S 400 YEARS

WHITCHURCH Grammar School, in Shropshire, has just celebrated the 400th anniversary of its foundation.

The school's founder was Sir Thomas Talbot, a great-grandson of the first Earl of Shrewsbury. He had very strong views of the conduct of boys and the need for education. He stated that he was "fully resolved, concluded, and determined to have erected and established one free school there to have been kept and continued for ever."

This he did not achieve in his lifetime, but when he died in 1449 he left £200 with Thomas Cotton, of Alkington, for the founding of the school.

The first schoolmaster received £10 a year and not more than thirty days' holiday a year, but he had the right to appoint his own usher at a salary of £3 6s 8d a year.

Nothing remains of the original school building next to the church in Bargate. The school today has modern buildings in its own fields outside the town, and the present headmaster still has the prerogative of choosing his own staff.

Liquid Rubber Goes by Rail

LIQUID rubber is being transported by rail in tank wagons for the first time in Britain.

Six special vehicles, each with a capacity of 9625 gallons, run between Liverpool docks and the storage tanks at Kirkby, from which the rubber is distributed in smaller amounts. The latex is piped direct from the ship-tanks to the rail tanks, and when amounts of 10,000 gallons or more are required the new tankers will run straight to factories.

THE EQUALITY OF MANKIND

SPEAKING recently of the amazing potentialities of the "primitive" human being, the Director of the Paris Musée de l'Homme, said that fifteen years ago Professor G. A. Vellard, Professor of Biology in the University of Lima, Peru, had gone into the jungle interior of Paraguay in search of a tribe known to be living in the same manner as our Stone Age ancestors.

He found a native encampment of the tribe, but the inhabitants fled, leaving behind a two-year-old baby girl. Professor Vellard carried the baby back to Lima, where she is now a brilliant biology student and the personal assistant of her adoptive father.

This story bears out a Unesco statement on the subject of race which claims that, given equality of opportunity, no one of the races of mankind is mentally superior to another.

Engines For Brazil

TEN more 1070 h.p. electric locomotives have been ordered from a Manchester company by Brazilian Railways.

With previous orders this means that £720,000 worth of electrical equipment for the Brazilian Railways will be produced by the firm's factories. With 14 already being built the ten now ordered are designed to work passenger or freight trains on metre-gauge lines now being electrified.

FOCUS ON TENNIS

TO encourage good tennis playing the Central Council of Physical Recreation has arranged for public exhibitions in various places. The demonstrators will be Fred Perry, triple Wimbledon Champion, and Dan Maskell, British Professional Champion.

The demonstrated programme begins with a game by county players, of which an estimate and summary is given by Perry and Maskell. The latter then go on to demonstrate fundamental strokes, afterwards providing a "coaching clinic" for local junior players.

International University

AN International Plan for scholarship students has been announced by the University of Cordoba in Argentina. The scheme is to be maintained by the Eva Peron Aid Fund and provides for the education of 400 foreign students side by side with 1500 Argentine students. Seventeen buildings are being constructed for this purpose in the vast university city now being completed in the province of Cordoba.

HELPING HAND

A NATIVE boy in Oyubia, East Nigeria, will soon be going to school—thanks to the John Street Methodist Boys' Club, Bermondsey.

The Revd John Peat, himself once a minister in Bermondsey but now a missionary, told the club how many African children could not go to school owing to lack of school fees.

The boys of the club got together and decided to subscribe towards the education of a native.

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PUBLICATIONS

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BEDTIME CORNER

Rock Pool Circus

"Look at this rock pool," said Daddie. "There are several clever creatures here, and I want you each to choose one of them. Then, this evening when the tide has been in and filled it again, we will come and watch them doing their tricks. I'll give a prize to the one owning the cleverest."

"I'll choose those little brown lumps stuck on the rock which look like toffee someone has sucked a bit," said Joy.

"They're anemones," explained Daddie.

"I'll have this cockle lying on this sandy ledge," said Jonathan.

"And I'll have these little grey-brown creatures nuzzling under the seaweed," said James.

"They're prawns," said Daddie.

"But prawns are pink," protested James.

"Not till they're cooked," laughed his father.

"Well, there's only those little shells like acorns stuck to the rocks left," said Wendy. "Barnacles," said Daddie.

So, after tea, directly the tide was out far enough, they returned to the rock pool.

"Hi!" cried Joy at once. "My anemones look as if a fairy godmother has waved her wand over them!" And indeed they did. For they had opened into the loveliest red and blue and green flowers.

Then Jonathan shouted: "Look at my cockle!" It was sticking its one foot out between its two shells and hopping away hard after the retreating sea.

"Quick!" cried James, then: "Look at my prawns!" First they swam slowly forward, and then they swam backwards twenty times faster.

"And my barnacles aren't doing anything," said Wendy sadly. But suddenly she saw twelve little legs come out of the top of the shell, wave, and kick downwards.

"They're kicking bits of food into their mouths," explained Daddie.

"That's much the cleverest," the others cried. "Wendy must have the prize." J. T.



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I HAD TWO BANDS THAT LOOKED ALIKE AND HID ONE UP MY SLEEVE!



THEN I JUST PULLED IT OVER MY WRIST AND SLIPPED THE ONE YOU FIRST SAW INTO MY POCKET!



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THE BRAN TUB

The Difference

A BUILDER'S labourer had the misfortune to fall from the scaffolding of the house on which he was working.

His mates rushed to his assistance, and one of them asked: "Did the fall hurt you, Joe?"

"No," replied Joe, "but the sudden stop did."

On the Beach

SHEILA, Sandra, and Edward collected 93 shells on the beach. If Sheila had twice as many as Edward and two more than Sandra, how many did each of them collect?

Answer next week

Not Recommended

SMITH entered a small café and asked if he could have some food.

"Yes, sir," said the waiter, who had just received notice.

"Such as what?" asked Smith.

"Such as it is," replied the waiter.

A Duck for Drake

BLAGGED young Drake, "I'll make fifty with luck; The bowling looks terrible muck." But the first ball was straight, And he played it too late, So poor Drake was bowled out for a duck.

Do You Know That . . . ?

THE three counties of Jamaica are Middlesex, Surrey, and Cornwall. The largest town is Kingston.

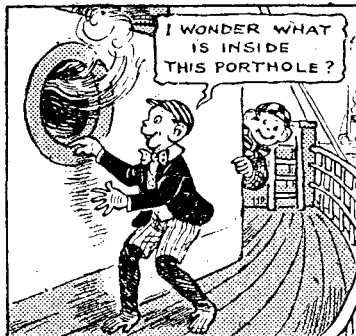
IN flying along a straight route from Land's End to Thurso in the north of Scotland, an aeroplane would only fly over land when the track reached Scotland.

THE Earth weighs five-and-a-half times as much as it would if it were composed wholly of water.

IN foggy weather, the fog blanket may vary from ten feet to one thousand feet high.

THE largest waves experienced at sea are about forty feet high. These are sufficiently big to cause the Queen Mary to list 30 degrees.

Jacko Finds Out—to His Regret!



The Jacko family had decided to go on a steamer trip during their holiday.

In Passing

AT a certain spot a railway line runs parallel to a river. A train travelling at 35 miles an hour up-river passes a motor-boat going down the river at ten miles an hour, in six and two-third seconds.

How long would it have taken the train to pass the motor-boat if both had been going in the same direction? Answer next week

RODDY

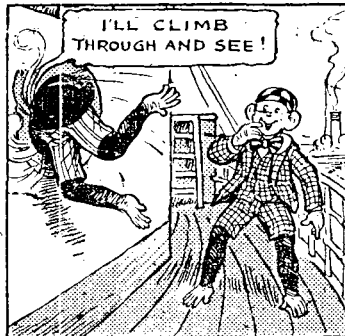


"I like the long one that's fallen into a hole."

What Did He Mean?

BLACK: I think you'll find this car a good bargain. I've had it for well over a year and during all that time I've not paid a single penny for repairs or renewals.

White: Yes; so your garage man tells me!



And, as usual, Jacko was full of curiosity as to what went on.

Farmer Gray Explains

HANDSOME Tiger Beetles. On the common Don saw a bronze-green insect scurrying swiftly along on long, slender, reddish-coloured legs. The boy moved closer to investigate, but the insect flew off.

"It was about half an inch long, and had four gold spots on its back," Don told Farmer Gray.

"A green tiger beetle, no doubt," said the farmer. "Tiger beetles are fierce hunters and a terror to flies and small insects. When in the larval state they occupy a tunnel several inches deep, usually situated in soft or sandy soil. Here they lie in wait, and unwary insects which approach are seized, dragged into the tunnel, and eaten."

Riddle-my-Name

IN laugh and in smile;
In heap and in pile;
In smoke, not in flame;
In title, not name;
In boiled and in fried;
In Mersey and Clyde.
Take which you prefer,
Take him or take her;
Your choice will depend
On two at the end.

Answer next week

Guess the Number

STAGGER your friend by telling him that you will guess any number he cares to think of.

Ask him to think of a number, multiply it by three, add one, and multiply the result by three; finally add the number first thought of. Ask him for the result, mentally strike off the last number (which will always be three), and the figures left will be the original number.

Here is an example. Supposing he chooses 452. $452 \times 3 = 1356$; plus one = 1357. $1357 \times 3 = 4071$; plus 452 = 4523; take away the three and you have 452, the original number.

In the Swim

I SWIM quite well—breast stroke, or side or back—And so do Mum and Dad. But, of us all, You ought to see my baby brother Jack: He does upon the floor a splendid "crawl."

Mistaken Identity

SAMMY SIMPLE was amazed to see a gaudily-coloured bird on the lawn outside his window. It was a parrot. Sammy tried to catch the bird, then suddenly it shrieked: "What do you want?"

"I beg your pardon," said Sammy. "I thought you were a bird."

Riddle in Rhyme

THERE'S not a creature lives beneath the sky Can secrets keep so faithfully as I; All things for safety are to me consigned, Although I often leave them far behind. I never act but by another's will, And what he should command I must fulfil.

Answer next week

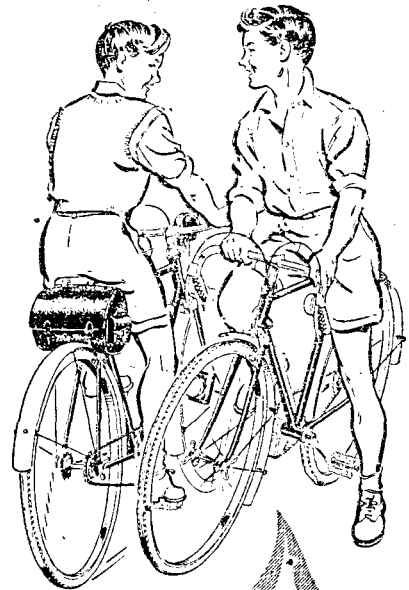
Last Week's Answers

Two Cyclists: 42 miles

Riddle-my-Name: Daniel

July Halves: Calvin, Hunter, Darius, Austen, Dalton, Jordan.

MOLE	SPAR
APIE	PARSE
CEDAR	EKE
ERY	BODEL
ANEMONE	
U	ATOMNS
ROT	TENSE
GRAPE	OUT
EELS	STET



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